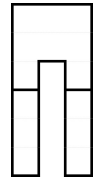


20. Contemplating

Contemplating Follows After Keeping Watch

When someone is Keeping a Constant Watch,
Then, they, *themselves*, become great.



When someone becomes great,
Then, others can look intently at them;
Others can Contemplate them.

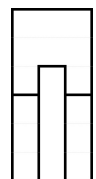
Consequently, in the Procedure of Heaven,
The Sign of Contemplating follows after the Sign of Keeping Watch.

Contemplating, versus being the subject of another's contemplation.

When one person is looking at something or someone else;
Then, that person is contemplating the other person or thing; and
At the same time, when someone or something is being looked at by the first person;
Then, that second person or thing is the subject of the first person's contemplation.

For example, when someone or something is placed on a stage;
Then, an audience is contemplating that which is presented to them; and
That which is presented to the audience is the subject of the audience's contemplation.

Accordingly, when a leader is looking at the way of heaven;
Then, that leader is contemplating the way of heaven¹; and
At the same time, the way of heaven is the subject of that leader's contemplation.

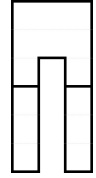


Also, when a leader is looking at the way of the people of earth;
Then, that leader is contemplating the way of the people of earth²; and

¹ The leader, on the Fifth Terrain of Contemplating, is looking up to the Sixth Terrain of Contemplating.

² The leader, on the Fifth Terrain of Contemplating is looking down toward the First, Second, and Third Terrains of Contemplating that form the Yielding Earth.

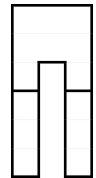
At the same time, the way of the people of earth is the subject of that leader's contemplation.



Therefore, when a leader is putting the peoples' government into action;
If that leader is contemplating the way of heaven, and is correcting their own virtues;
While also, simultaneously, contemplating the way of the people;
Then, that leader will be admired by the people; and
The peoples' admiration becomes another identifiable form of contemplation.

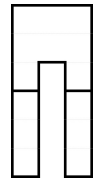
The All-Encompassing Contemplation of a Lowing Wind Moving Over the Yielding Earth

Symbolically, The Lowing Wind is traveling above the Yielding Earth;
The Wind is penetrating into everything, and
The Wind symbolizes a Contemplation that encompasses everything and everyone.



The Leader, Being Contemplated By a Group of Admirers

In the Sign of Contemplating,
The top two Terrains are being occupied with a firm disposition to Rise and Lead.
The four Terrains below are being occupied with a soft disposition to descend and Yield.



Symbolically, the sign represents:
The Leaders being Contemplated, and admired, by a group of people on the Terrains below.

The Ceremonial Offering

When I am on any of the Terrains above,
Then, I am a formal, authoritative, and ritualistic model-figure for the world.

When I am the model-figure for the world,
Then, my duty is to maximize my own seriousness and depth of respect.

When I maximize an awe-inspiring seriousness and deep respect,
Then, those below will Contemplate with admiration, and
Those below will be dramatically changed by the experience.

The world is Contemplating the model-figures above;

The world is Contemplating the model-figures in circumstance like that of an offering in an ancestor's religious temple.

There is a difference between the moments before and after the offering:

- In the beginning, is the moment of washing with extreme sincerity to Take Away excesses and return to the root Nourishment;
- In the beginning, is the moment of serious, important, and critical purpose;
- In the beginning, is the moment those below Contemplate with admiration.

In the beginning, is the moment when the officiant

- washes their hands, and
- Pours Out a libation on to the Yielding Earth.

This is the moment in which the spirit of the return to root Nourishment is sought.

This is the moment when everyone exhausts their hearts' sincerity to the essence, and
When everyone reaches an intense, quiet, moderation.